

Appl. No. 10/090,024
Amdt. Dated August 16, 2004
Reply to Office action of May 28, 2004

Listing of Claims:

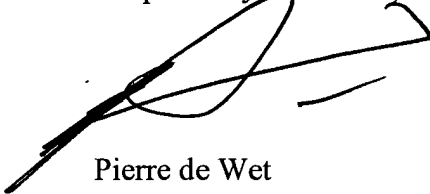
Claim 1 (currently amended): I claim that the use of small, carved, oak sticks, each with a message scorched on its side and addressed to the consumer, inserted into bottles of wine for consumers is my invention.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to reflect that I am claiming the use of oak sticks with a message scorched on the side of each as my invention. This is not a new idea, as this was described in my original application. Although it was not previously included in the Claim, it is an essential part of my invention. If Mooney's invention truly uses the same concept as my invention, which is a small oak stick floating in a bottle of wine, the fact that my invention provides a message to the consumer, whereas Mooney's does not, will set my invention apart from Mooney's. My invention is unique because, in addition to providing additional flavor to the wine and serving as a keepsake item to the consumer, each stick sends a special message to the consumer.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pierre de Wet', written over a horizontal line.

Pierre de Wet
Applicant
Tel.: (903) 894-9330